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Sports

Aggies sprint past fiesty Frogs as Lewis makes strong showing

By **Tammy Hedgpeth**
Sports Writer
and
Cray Pixley
Reporter

FORT WORTH — Texas A&M lost the battle against Texas Christian but won the war.

Despite fumbles, interceptions, injuries and penalties, A&M downed the Horned Frogs 42-24 Saturday at Amon Carter Stadium.

The Aggies fumbled the ball two times and were penalized six times, once on a play that nullified Darren Lewis' 72-yard touchdown run.

To add to the troubles, Craig Stump threw three interceptions and tackle Tony Bartley was sidelined in the second quarter with an apparent neck injury.

Although Lewis played with a sore shoulder, he had the right ammunition to gain a career-high 194 yards.

Lewis' efforts moved him into second place on A&M's freshman rushing chart with 655 yards, but Lewis said he is not concerned with statistics.

"I'm just happy to be able to come in as a freshman and make an impact on the team," he said.

Lewis had runs of 35, 46, 80 and 72 yards, two of which were touchdowns. The 72-yard run was called back on a careless tripping penalty.

Lewis was granted a second opportunity for a long yardage play when he had a fumble bounce back to him on the way to an 80-yard touchdown.

"I missed the ball but it came right back up to me," Lewis said. "The blocking was there and I saw daylight. Maybe Shelby (Metcalfe, A&M basketball coach) can use me. I can play a little basketball too," he said of his dribbled carry.

Stump also made an impact in his first complete game since 1984.

The passing game was reincarnated, but for Stump, every pass was an adventure.

Stump, who unloaded for 175 yards, threw three interceptions along with several up-for-grabs balls that must have had Aggie fans cringing.

"One of the interceptions was my fault because I tried to force the ball

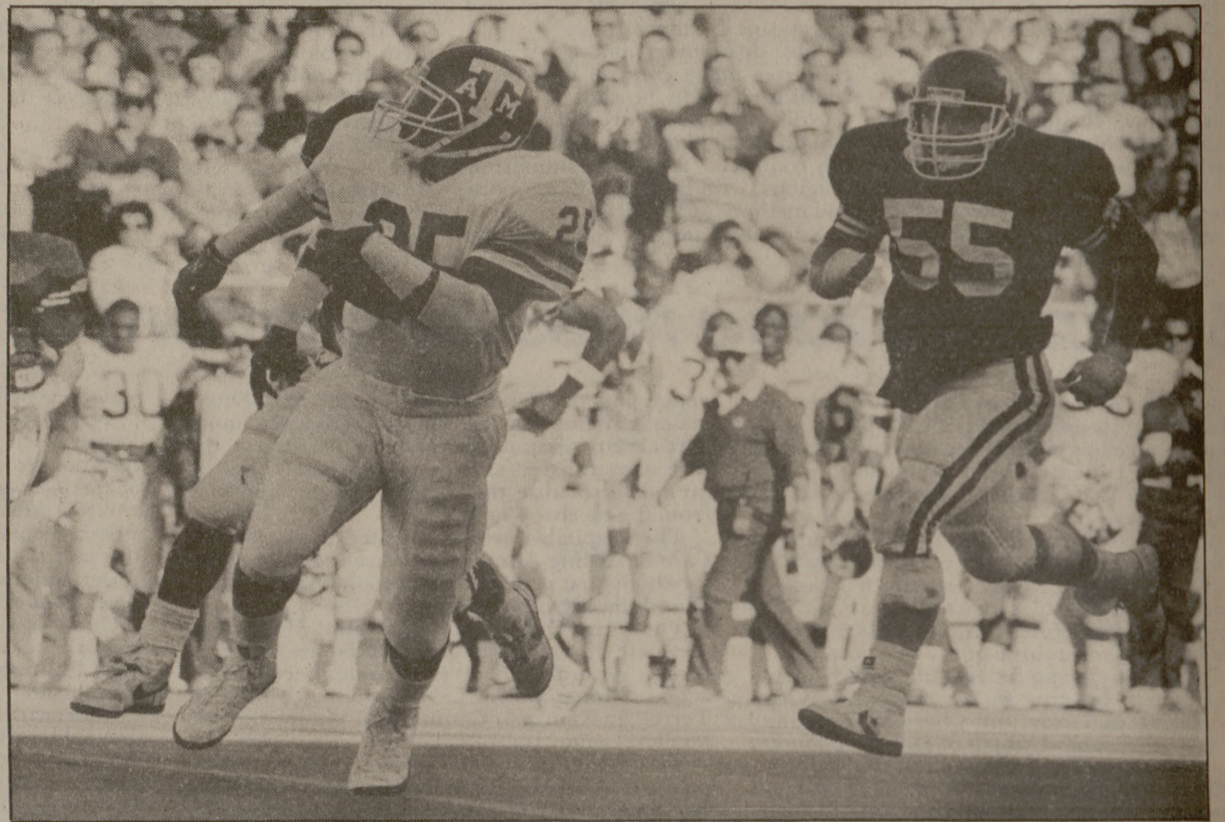


Photo by Phelan M. Ebenack

A&M's Darren Lewis outruns TCU's David Spradlin on the way to his 72-yard touchdown run that was later negated by an Aggie penalty. Lewis later scored on an 80-yard jaunt and had 194 yards rushing on the day.

in there," Stump said. "The other one I was hit from behind as I was throwing the ball. The guy was open and I wanted to get it over his head, but I didn't get it where I wanted it."

"The third one was a deep route before the half and I decided to throw it and it ended up being like a punt. One of them I'll take credit for; it was a bad throw."

Lewis and Stump were not the only impact players. Junior Rod Harris had perhaps the best game of his career.

Harris recorded five receptions for 119 yards. However, the split end fumbled punt return in the first half that resulted in a TCU touchdown.

A&M's story of a strong defense and a weak offense had an exciting

plot. The "Wrecking Crew" took an extra long lunch break allowing TCU to rack up the first points of the game without the services of star running back Tony Jeffery. That was just the beginning.

TCU went on to take a 14-10 half-time lead and rushed for 241 yards, the most the Aggie defense has given up all season.

TCU tailback Tony Darthard cruised for a 56-yard touchdown, the longest run of the season against the A&M defense, rated No. 5 in the nation. The Aggies gave up a 46-yard gainer against Southern Mississippi.

Darthard finished the game with 154 yards rushing. Only Kimble Anders of Houston was able to top the 100 yard mark against A&M this season.

TCU also had 19 first downs to the Aggies' 13.

Strong safety Chet Brooks said he might have underestimated the TCU team.

"I'm overwhelmed that we won," Brooks said. "We didn't play as well as we should have."

"TCU is underrated offensively. They are one of the best 5-6 teams in the nation. They are a better team than people are saying they are. In the near future they will be somebody to reckon with."

As he walked toward the bus following the game, the normally exuberant Brooks said, "I'm sore and I'm tired. I don't want to see Fort Worth anymore in my life. I'm sick of Fort Worth."

Aggie frosh tops list of SWC's superlative performances

DAZZLIN' DARREN — Texas A&M freshman running back Darren Lewis rushed for 194 yards on 16 carries. He had touchdown runs of 35 and 80 yards and had a 70 yard scoring run called back on a penalty.

ERIC THE GREAT — Texas tailback Eric Metcalfe gained 216 yards in all-purpose offense. He returned a punt 59 yards for a touchdown,

scored twice on runs, and caught a pass for a two-point conversion in a 34-16 victory over Baylor.

STRANGER ON THE BENCH — Baylor was penalized 15 yards because of the action of an unidentified spectator on the Bears' bench during the Texas game. "We didn't know who the guy was or where he

got a sideline pass," said Baylor Coach Grant Teaff.

DARTHARD'S DAY — TCU running back Tony Darthard's 154 yards rushing was the most surrendered by Texas A&M to an individual this year.

QUOTE OF THE DAY — It belongs to Texas Tech defensive end James Moseley after the Red Raiders

waited in vain for an Independence Bowl bid following a 10-10 tie with Houston: "The way I see it, you apply for a job and the bossman says 'Don't call us, we'll call you,' and he never calls you. We'll just watch the game over the holiday."

BLOCK PARTY — Baylor blocked two field goals and two extra points yet lost to Texas.

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